

John Branch to Andrew Jackson, December 11, 1827, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

JOHN BRANCH TO JACKSON.1

1 John Branch was senator from North Carolina from 1823 until he resigned to enter Jackson's Cabinet in 1829.

Washington, December 11, 1827.

My Dear Sir, I have this moment been informed by maj. Eaton that a safe opportunity is afforded to write to you as freely as I think. Permit me then to say that the Republic is safe, and that in regard to the Coalition that their days are numbered and their destiny fixed. *Tekel tekel mene Tekel* 2 is inscribed on the wall in such legible characters that he who runs may read. The election of Stephenson D. Green etc. etc. speaks a language that cannot be misunderstood.

2 "Mene, mene, tekel, upharsin." Daniel v. 24–28.

All that we have to do is to act calmly and dispassionately and to adjourn as soon as a proper regard to the public interest will permit. Some of our friends are aspiring, particularly those who formerly espoused the cause of Calhoun and Crawford and there is some danger that unpleasant feelings and jealousies may be excited. But Sir nothing can arrest the progress of public sentiment, and *some of our friends* are whiped into the ranks under a full conviction of the truth. This is however *inter nos*.

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Present me in the most polite and friendly terms to mrs. Jackson and accept for yourself my undiminished confidence and esteem. Adieu